

**Remarks**

Attached as an Appendix is a marked-up copy of original claims 1 and 5 demonstrating the changes made to these claims. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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**APPENDIX**

Deletions appear as Overstrike text surrounded by []

Additions appear as Bold-Underline text

1. A C-11 protein comprising ~~[a protein selected from the group consisting of:~~  
~~(a) a protein comprising]~~ an amino acid sequence ~~[having]~~ **of** SEQ ID NO. 2 ~~[(SEQUENCE LISTING); and]~~  
~~[(b) a protein that is derived from the amino acid sequence having SEQ ID NO. 2 by deletion, substitution or insertion of one or more amino acids]~~, said protein having cell-calcification inhibitory activity.
5. A cell-calcification inhibitor comprising a c-erg protein ~~[selected from the group consisting of:~~  
~~(a) a protein]~~ comprising an amino acid sequence ~~[having]~~ **of** SEQ ID NO. 4 ~~[(SEQUENCE LISTING); and]~~  
~~(b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence that is derived from the amino acid sequence having SEQ ID NO. 4 by deletion, substitution or insertion of one or more amino acids]~~, said protein having cell-calcification inhibitory activity.